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Responding to Recent Events in Charleston and Beyond

We have had requests in the Conference office from people wishing to respond to various issues related to South Carolina. Here is a partial listing of activities being planned:

Helping Rebuild the Churches that have Burned

The United Church of Christ has an Emergency USA Fund, and donations to it can be earmarked "Burned Churches, 2015." You can send your contributions through the Southeast Conference or directly to Wider Church Ministries, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Ave., Cleveland OH 44115. In the coming weeks national staff will determine where the capacity is emerging for long term recovery, it will almost certainly be ecumenical. Further plans will be communicated on the national UCC website.

Threats to female AME Ministers in South Carolina

National Staff of the UCC are deliberating about how to respond to this. More information will be available on the national UCC website next week.

Response to threats received by Confederate Flag

The Southeast Conference UCC is a member organization of the South Carolina Christian Action Council. The Council invites you to attend these upcoming events to build support to retire the Confederate flag. Come and bring friends to any or all of these events and share this e-mail with your network.
Unity Rally – Saturday, July 4, 4:00 PM – State House Steps, Main & Gervais

- Hosted in collaboration with Take the Flag Down SC. Featuring live music and speeches from civic leaders who support the Campaign for Dignity in South Carolina. Make plans now to attend this patriotic protest rally.

Unity and Justice Vigil – Monday, July 6, 7:00 PM – State House Steps, Main & Gervais

- We will memorialize many of the victims of terrorism and violence in the shadow of the Confederate flag in South Carolina and examine the way forward after the Charleston Massacre that addresses the core racial disparities that define the Campaign for Dignity in South Carolina

Press Conference & Legislative Watch – Tuesday, July 7, 12:00 PM – State House, 1st Floor

- The final push before what we anticipate to be an historic vote on the future of South Carolina. Witness the deliberations in the House and Senate Chambers leading to what we pray will be a final vote to place the divisive banner of the Confederacy in a museum.

A Pastoral Letter in response to the shooting at Emanuel AME Church

In case you missed it, Designated Conference Minister June Boutwell authored a pastoral letter in response to the shooting at Mother Emanuel church in Charleston. View it here.

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